

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 04538 280012Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 OES-09 /067 W  
-----123113 280033Z /75

R 272323Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
TO CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6133  
SECDEF WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU  
CNO WASHDC  
COMSEVENTHFLT  
COMTHIRDFLT  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY SUVA  
CTF SEVEN FIVE  
USS HORNE  
USS ROBISON

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 04538

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OCLR, MNVC, NZ, CW, TN

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC (SOPAC) CRUISE OF USS HORNE AND  
USS ROBISON

1. THE USS HORNE (CG-30) AND USS ROBISON (DDG-12) HAVE  
RECENTLY COMPLETED PORT VISITS TO RAROTONGA, COOK ISLANDS,  
NUKU'ALOFA, TONGA AND AUCKLAND, CHRISTCHURCH, DUNEDIN  
AND WELLINGTON IN NEW ZEALAND. THESE VISITS WERE MADE  
PURSUANT TO A NEW CONCEPT BEING TRIED BY THE U.S. NAVY -  
A SOUTH PACIFIC CRUISE BY DEDICATED SURFACE SHIPS - AIMED  
AT SHOWING THE FLAG, ESTABLISHING PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS  
AND PROJECTING A U.S. PRESENCE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC IN  
MANY AREAS NOT VISITED BY A USN SHIP IN ALL TOO MANY YEARS  
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2. ALTHOUGH THE CRUISE IS ONLY ABOUT ONE THIRD OVER, THE  
RESULTS TO DATE IN THOSE AREAS OF MY ACCREDITATION HAVE  
BEEN OUTSTANDING. AS EXAMPLES; DR. TOM DAVIS, THE NEW  
PREMIER OF THE COOK ISLANDS, TOLD ME PERSONALLY HOW  
DELIGHTED HE WAS WITH HORNE'S RAROTONGA VISIT AND WELCOMED  
A REPEAT VISIT BY A USN SHIP ANYTIME, TO INCLUDE BOTH CON-

VENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS; THE VISIT IN NUKU'ALOFA BY ROBISON WAS WELCOMED WARMLY AND WAS A NICE FOLLOW-ON TO THE NPSS VISIT OF BAINBRIDGE A MONTH EARLIER; COVERAGE OF THE NZ PORT VISITS HAS BEEN UNIVERSALLY FAVORABLE AND I PERSONALLY OBSERVED THE FINE JOB DONE BY HORNE WHILE HERE IN WELLINGTON - ON SUNDAY 20 AUG ALONE SHE HAD OVER 4,000 VISITORS ONBOARD WHILE HER BAND WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY PERFORMING BEFORE OVER 6,000 ENTHUSIASTIC WELLINGTON CITIZENS. AND THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED DESPITE HER HAVING THE MISFORTUNE TO ARRIVE DURING A NEWSPAPER STRIKE WHEN THE DAILY PAPERS WERE NOT PUBLISHING.

3. THIS EMBASSY HAS FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS PUSHED FOR AN INCREASED USN PORT VISIT PRESENCE IN THIS AREA OF THE PACIFIC AND THE PRESENT SOPAC CRUISE SUCCESS SHOWS WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY SUCH AN UNDERTAKING. I BELIEVE THE U.S. NAVY HAS COME UP WITH A WINNER IN THE SOPAC CRUISE CONCEPT AND STRONGLY URGE THAT IT BE MADE AN ANNUAL EVENT SIMILAR TO THE UNITAS CRUISE AROUND SOUTH AMERICA. SELDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS, NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** SOUTH PACIFIC (SOPAC) CRUISE OF USS HORNE AND USS ROBISON  
**TAGS:** OCLR, MNUC, NZ, CW, TN  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014